



A TIRE COMPANY

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EXHIBIT 2  
DATE 3-9-2007  
SB SB 237

**Bruce Starr Testimony  
In Support of Senate Bill 237  
Montana State House of Representatives – Transportation Committee  
March 9, 2007**

Good Afternoon. My name is Bruce Starr and I live in Hillsboro, Oregon. I am here representing Q Tires, Inc a company founded in the great northwest.

I want to thank Senator Brueggeman for sponsoring Senate Bill 237.

Q Tires, Inc is a company that is bringing to the marketplace a new tire technology. The technology as you can see from our prototype tire is a retractable studded tire.

The purpose for SB 237 is to allow Q Tires, Inc. to manufacture and market their new tires as all season, all weather tires. Under current Montana statute, like most states, studded tires are regulated for use during specific times of the years. The reason for this is obvious - while studded tires provide excellent traction on snow and ice they also cause road damage in regular conditions.

When the current statute was created, no one contemplated a tire like the one that has been developed by Q Tires, Inc.

The bill creates an exception for the time of year regulation for studded tires with retractable studs. This would allow Montana consumers to purchase the Q Tires product and drive them year around.

Briefly, let me explain how the tire works. The tire has two separate air chambers – the main chamber and an auxiliary chamber that controls the deployment of the studs. With the push of a button inside the vehicle, a small valve is opened and closed via remote control. When opened, the air between the two chambers is equalized and the studs are extended. To retract the studs, a second push of the button causes the valve to close and the air in the secondary chamber releases as the studs retract.

It is a relatively simple process but, believe me, a complex manufacturing feat which Q Tires has finally perfected. We should have the tires available to Montana consumers before the end of this year.

That is why we are here today to ask for your support of SB 237.

This bill creates a win-win-win situation. Drivers will save money by only having to purchase one set of tires. Drivers will also be safer with the needed traction in treacherous driving conditions. In addition, taxpayers should also see less road damage caused by today's studded tire.

I appreciate your attention and would be happy to answer any questions you may have.